

## 376TH AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING MANAS AIR BASE, KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

*Manas Air Base was activated December 21, 2001, after coalition forces deployed to Manas International Airport and began supporting Operation ENDURING FREEDOM after the terror attacks of September 11, 2001. The base continues to play an important role in the ongoing operations in Afghanistan, helping promote regional stability in Central Asia.*



### MISSION

Manas Air Base is the premier mobility hub for Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. The wing's around-the-clock mission includes strategic airlift operations, aerial refueling, combat airlift and airdrop, and aeromedical evacuation.

### AIRCRAFT

Coalition aircraft supporting the mission include U.S. KC-135s and C-17s, Spanish C-130s, and French C135FRs.

### PERSONNEL

The base has approximately 1,200 personnel assigned, including U.S., Spanish and French forces. Additionally, the base employs more than 600 contract and local personnel to assist with day-to-day operations & to support the personnel assigned to and transiting through the base.

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Manas personnel have made a difference in the lives of many Kyrgyz people through volunteerism.

Outreach efforts include work with orphanages, medical facilities for children, & elderly foundations. During the AEF 1/2 rotation, volunteers invested more than 1,600 hours & provided more than \$9,300 in goods or services, including major



renovation projects as well as distributing two tons of donated goods to the local community. This rotation, Airmen have also logged thousands of volunteer hours, raised money for supplies & donated labor for numerous projects in the six local villages just outside of Manas AB. These projects include community center renovations, construction & painting of playground equipment, refurbishment of school desks, planting of trees, plumbing & painting prep work, & the purchase of electronic equipment, balls & recreational equipment for schools & much more.



## 376TH AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING



*January – May  
2008*

## MANAS AIR BASE KYRGYZSTAN

*Cycle 7, AEF 1/2  
Summary*



*Col. Harrison Smith  
376 AEW  
Commander*



*CMSgt. Lisa Sirois  
376 AEW  
Command Chief*



## Operations Group

As the lead KC-135 aerial refueling unit for Afghanistan operations, the AEF 1/2 rotation logged the highest winter operations tempo in more than four years with 770 sorties flown & more than 44 million lbs of fuel off-loaded to 2,426 U.S. & Coalition fighter, bomber & reconnaissance planes. The wing's effort enabled over 1,000 'strikes,' 'shows of force' and 'troops in contact' missions to be directed against the enemy this rotation.



Despite increased operations tempo & enduring Kyrgyzstan's coldest winter in 40 years, the wing was able to complete \$70K in airfield improvements, including leveling an infield dirt area to reduce foreign object debris being blown from aircraft taxiing off of the Juliet Ramp. In addition, the corner shoulder at taxiway D & Juliet North was strengthened & a manhole cover was flush-mounted to prevent damage to taxiing aircraft. Furthermore, an airfield camera was installed at the POL yard to provide visibility of the runway 08 approach end by Kyrgyz Air Navigation air traffic controllers, effectively eliminating a serious blind spot.

Members continue to work with the Kyrgyz air traffic controllers on their English skills and, for the first time, administered the American Language Course Placement Test to help bring them a step closer to ICAO certification.

## Mission Support Group

During AEF 1/2, EMSG worked as an integrated team to identify, plan & execute the largest movement of warriors in & out of the AOR in over six years, executing the Army RIP/TOA & Marine Expeditionary Unit transport concurrently with 22,000 personnel

during March alone. EMSG demonstrated real grit & determination battling through the coldest winter in 40 years, reaffirming its "World Class Warrior Care" motto by implementing a new lodging system (LODGCON) & PERSCO developing institutional procedures to tighten contractor accountability & ease them through immigration at the airport. ECES was superb, handling 6,000 service calls during a sustained period of sub-freezing cold throughout January. While battling the "Siberian" elements, ECES completed \$1.4M in construction including a shower/latrine facility, AMU facility & transient shelter. ECES also proceeded with a new medical clinic, POL maintenance & operations center, & transient morale center. Contracting fueled ECES projects by overseeing \$4.2M in construction projects, while the ECS enhanced wing safety & security by installing a flightline camera surveillance system & fiber optic cabling critical to base entry control points. ESVS excelled during the dismal winter providing an astounding 650 recreational events to up the wing's morale, over 602,000 meals, & special RIPTOA events for transiting warriors, while also improving customer flow through the Ala Too Dining Facility. The post office processed 192,000 lbs of mail, while security forces defenders shunned severe cold to provide airtight base defense & open a new Ops Town checkpoint. ELRS improved services, opening a new passenger terminal wing & introduced X-Ray equipment while handling 69,840 passengers & 5,016 short-tons of cargo. The Expeditionary Theater Distribution Center snugly fit 5,200 Airmen with protective gear. POL braved the cold to deliver 170,000,000 lbs of fuel, & vehicle maintenance excelled in keeping vehicles operational in arctic conditions. ESVS also improved relations with local communities by catering a gourmet dinner for the mayors of six local villages. Finally, EMSG completed numerous projects to improve the vitality of local communities & promote cultural understanding.



## Maintenance Group

The 376th Expeditionary Maintenance Group provided direct support to mission generation through flightline, back shop, AGE, support, & supply personnel. Their combined efforts resulted in remarkable 85% KC-135 & 80% C-17 mission capable rates. More impressively, the professionals of the EMXG sustained a 97% logistics departure reliability rate despite enduring the coldest recorded winter in the Kyrgyz Republic in the last 40 years. Other significant accomplishments included: 84% 12-hour fix rate...14% above the AFCENT standard, a 92% Quality Assurance pass rate, & zero FOD incidents. Finally, the EMXG began planning operations to become the newest mission in the AOR to evolve into the Total Team concept as Iowa Air National Guard KC-135 maintainers joined forces with active duty maintainers from Fairchild AFB.



## Medical Group

The safety & health of the Air Force's most precious weapon system – our personnel – was entrusted to the EMDG. During the busiest ops tempo the base has ever seen, the group saw an astounding 6,000-plus patient encounters, performed 12 emergent surgeries & processed 14 members for aeromedical evacuation. They continued to lead the way in immunization rates, ranking in the top 3 of 15 facilities in the AOR. They also analyzed more than 350 water samples to ensure safe drinking water for 30,000 permanent & transient coalition personnel. Engaging with their counterparts, the medics volunteered their time & helped the Kyrgyz National Guard install their first ever in-house dental equipment & ensured operational capability.